PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV827401168US

Appl No.

: To be assigned

Confirmation No. N/A

Applicant

: Jean-Louis Stehle

Filed

: July 24, 2006

Title

: PROTECTED PATTERN MASK FOR REFLECTION LITHOGRAPHY IN

THE EXTREME UV OR SOFT X-RAY RANGE

TC/A.U.

: To be assigned : To be assigned

Examiner Docket No.

: 58059/N75

Customer No. : 23363

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Post Office Box 7068 Pasadena, CA 91109-7068 July 24, 2006

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

Appendix an Abstract of the Disclosure, on a separate page, is attached following page 6 of this paper.